

CALIFORNIA STATE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

J. D. DUNSHEE, M.D., Director

Weekly Bulletin



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SAN FRANCISCO

State Office Building, McAllister and
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State Office Building, 10th and L Streets
Capital 2800

LOS ANGELES

State Office Building, 217 West First
Street Madison 1271

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GUY P. JONES
EDITOR

An Outline of the Laws of California with Regard to Public Health Procedures

References: General health laws.

Deering, Statutes of California.

Regulations of the California State Board of Public Health for the control of various communicable diseases.

LESSON II

The Divisions and Bureaus of the State Department of Public Health

DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATION

Finance.

Keeps records of all income and expenditure. Prepares budgets and estimates of expense. Prepares and submits claims to Department of Finance and State Controller.

Crippled Children.

Conducts searches for crippled children who may be amenable to the provisions of the so-called Crippled Child Act. Conducts diagnostic clinics and conferences and follows up cases of crippling diseases. Provides for treatment of physically handicapped whose parents or guardians are unable to provide treatment after certification by the superior court of the county within which the crippled individual resides.

Publicity and Statistical Service.

The law provides for publishing statistical and

other information which may be of value to scientists, the medical profession and the general public in the maintenance of proper health conditions. A weekly bulletin providing such information is published and distributed to all individuals who may require it. A biennial report is published. Special bulletins and circulars are issued as occasion may require. Newspapers are provided with material of current interest and value in the maintenance of the public health. Public health exhibits are prepared. Special information and special statistical data are provided, as requested.

Organization.

A service is provided to local communities for the purpose of assisting in the organization of local public health service. Particularly activities are directed towards the formation of full-time county health units.

DIVISION OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

Bureau of Epidemiology.

The law requires that action be taken, as necessary, to protect and preserve public health and requires the reporting of certain classes of communicable diseases, as well as other diseases which may be specified by the State Board of Public Health. Health officers are required to send reports at the end of each week. From these reports morbidity statistics are compiled

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and distributed. Epidemiologists are available at all times for the investigation of outbreaks of communicable diseases. Assistance is given in the demonstration of various procedures that may be of use in the prevention of disease. Efforts are made continuously toward the provision of safeguards against the introduction of communicable diseases from other States and foreign countries.

Bureau of Tuberculosis.

The law requires the preparation of rules and regulations for the administration of tuberculosis sanatoria within the State and requires the State Board of Public Health to administer the State subsidy to counties which maintain the required standards in county tuberculosis sanatoria. All tuberculosis sanatoria, both public and private, are inspected regularly. In addition, special clinics for the discovery of tuberculous cases among certain groups of individuals are carried on. Surveys are made of communities to determine the extent of tuberculosis. Literature relating to the prevention of the disease is distributed. Exhibits are maintained and an informational service is provided for the benefit of the general public.

DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH EDUCATION

Bureau of Registration of Nurses.

The law requires the State Board of Public Health to examine eligible candidates for registration as nurses; to conduct examinations for their registration; and to maintain standards of reciprocity in the registration of nurses from other States without examination. Training schools for nurses are inspected and prerequisites are determined for the eligibility of candidates desiring examination. An informational service is maintained for the benefit of both training schools and student nurses.

Bureau of Child Hygiene.

Under the law the State Board of Public Health is charged with the investigation of conditions affecting the health of children in California and with the dissemination of educational information relative to the health of children. The law also requires the board to inspect and license maternity homes and hospitals. Infants and children in rural communities are provided with physical examinations where such examinations are not available. Advice and pre-natal care are given to expectant mothers. Advice in proper care of infants and children is given to young mothers. A wide variety of literature pertaining to these and related subjects is distributed. Maternity homes and hospitals are inspected and recommended for licensure. Institutes on child care, pre-natal, and maternity care

are maintained. Motion picture films, exhibits, and speeches for special meetings related to child care are provided, as requested.

DIVISION OF LABORATORIES

Bacteriological Laboratory.

The law requires the maintenance of a laboratory for bacteriological examinations at the University of California in Berkeley. Diagnostic examinations are made of specimens from individuals in whom communicable diseases may exist. This service is available to all physicians and health officers except for those in cities having populations of 20,000 and over. The laboratory manufactures typhoid vaccine for free distribution to physicians, as well as antigens and similar products to other laboratories at nominal cost. Outfits containing two ampules of silver nitrate are manufactured in the laboratory and distributed free of charge to physicians and midwives for administration in the eyes of the newly-born for the prevention of ophthalmia neonatorum.

Food and Drug Laboratory.

A laboratory is also maintained at the University of California where samples of foods and drugs are analyzed. In addition to official samples, many unofficial samples are examined. Most of these are of food materials supplied to State institutions. Such supplies are purchased under contract and the laboratory makes frequent analyses in order to provide assurance that State wards receive foods which conform to required standards.

Water and Sewage.

For the benefit of purveyors of water supplies, a laboratory is maintained where bacteriological checks upon the quality of water supplies are made. This service is available to all municipalities which may need it. The efficiency of sewage disposal plants is also checked through examinations of sewage which are made whenever they may be required by any community.

Research.

Because of California's geographical position, many of the more unusual, but highly fatal, communicable diseases sometimes occur. Many such diseases are common in oriental and tropical countries but they are rare in this country. New problems in the control of the communicable diseases which are ever-present are arising continually. In order that proper advances may be made in the control of all communicable diseases, a research laboratory is maintained where highly technical work along these lines is carried out.

FOUR CALIFORNIA CITIES WIN HEALTH HONORS

Four California cities have won honors in the 1933 city health conservation contest, conducted jointly by the Chamber of Commerce of the United States and the American Public Health Association.

Palo Alto won first award among all cities in the United States having populations under 20,000.

Santa Ana received first honorable mention among cities having populations between 20,000 and 50,000. Hackensack, New Jersey, led the field in this class.

Pasadena received first honorable mention among cities having population between 50,000 and 100,000. Schenectady, New York, received first place in this classification.

Oakland won second honorable mention among cities having populations between 250,000 and 500,000. Rochester was first in this class, with Cincinnati, Ohio, receiving first honorable mention.

The State of California may well be proud of these outstanding records made by California cities in safeguarding the public health of their citizens. California and Pennsylvania each received four awards; New York, Illinois, New Jersey, three each; Ohio, two, and Connecticut, Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Massachusetts, South Carolina, Mississippi, Kentucky, Montana, Kansas, Missouri, Texas and Hawaii each received one award.

Louis Olsen is city health officer of Palo Alto, Dr. K. H. Sutherland is city health officer of Santa Ana, Dr. J. D. Dunshee was city health officer of Pasadena until his appointment last March as director of the California State Department of Public Health, and Dr. Arthur H. Hieronymus is city health officer of Oakland.

A HUMAN DEATH FROM RABIES

A human death from rabies occurred last week, the first to be reported in California in almost two years. It is unfortunate that any child should sacrifice his life to a disease that is so easily preventable. It is a conspicuous fact that cases of rabies in dogs and human deaths from the disease do not occur in those communities where stray dogs are not permitted to roam at large. In some cities, like San Francisco, societies for the prevention of cruelty to animals are engaged actively in gathering up stray dogs and in providing for their proper disposal. Such actions are decidedly in the interests of dogs and they go far toward affording protection to children. Perhaps a time will come when intelligent dog lovers will insist that their animals be safeguarded against this destructive disease which is spread almost entirely by strays.

OPPORTUNITY FOR TRAINING AS HEALTH OFFICER

Physicians who desire to secure a short intensive training course in public health are provided with such an opportunity at the University of California, Berkeley, during the intersession and summer session opening May 14 and closing August 3.

The first six weeks of the course will be conducted under the general direction of Dr. Frank L. Kelly, Assistant Professor of Public Health Administration and city health officer of Berkeley. This will consist of class instruction, group discussions and field demonstrations. The next four weeks will be spent in the San Joaquin County health unit. During this period, each student will receive practical field experience under the supervision of Dr. John J. Sippy, director of the San Joaquin County health unit. In the last two weeks, each student will be required to make a survey of the health work of some community not far from Berkeley. An instructional staff of experts in the fields of tuberculosis, epidemiology, sanitary engineering, mosquito and malaria control, parasitology, bacteriology, child hygiene, biometry and public health administration will conduct the teaching during the first part of the course.

It is anticipated that a large number of doctors of medicine who desire to engage in public health work will take advantage of this training. Applications for admission should be sent to the chairman of the Department of Hygiene of the University of California at Berkeley. They should be accompanied by statements of professional training and experience.

MORBIDITY*

Chickenpox

515 cases of chickenpox have been reported, as follows: Alameda County 6, Alameda 3, Albany 1, Berkeley 10, Livermore 4, Oakland 39, Contra Costa County 11, Antioch 2, Martinez 2, Fresno County 3, Fresno 8, Brawley 1, Kern County 2, Los Angeles County 35, Alhambra 18, Beverly Hills 4, Burbank 3, Claremont 1, El Monte 2, Glendale 12, Hermosa 1, Huntington Park 1, Long Beach 17, Los Angeles 69, Monrovia 2, Pasadena 42, Santa Monica 10, South Pasadena 1, Whittier 7, South Gate 6, Bell 2, Madera County 9, San Rafael 6, Orange County 2, Anaheim 2, Huntington Beach 4, Santa Ana 1, Seal Beach 10, Riverside County 6, Corona 1, Riverside 9, Sacramento County 3, Sacramento 6, San Diego County 15, Escondido 1, National City 2, San Diego 1, San Francisco 64, San Joaquin County 5, Stockton 13, San Luis Obispo 2, Menlo Park 1, Santa Barbara County 1, Lompoc 2, Santa Clara County 3, San Jose 2, Santa Cruz County 2, Siskiyou County 1, Stanislaus County 1, Visalia 2, Ventura County 12, Yolo County 1.

Diphtheria

49 cases of diphtheria have been reported, as follows: Oakland 2, Los Angeles County 9, Burbank 1, Compton 1, Los Angeles 21, Santa Monica 1, Ross 1, Corona 1, Sacramento 2, San Bernardino 3, San Francisco 1, San Jose 1, Sonoma County 3, Tulare County 1, Marysville 1.

German Measles

255 cases of German measles have been reported, as follows: Berkeley 3, Contra Costa County 2, Del Norte County 1, Fresno County 9, Sanger 15, Selma 3, Kern County 18, Taft 2, Lake County 4, Los Angeles County 35, Alhambra 2, Beverly Hills 15, Compton 1, Huntington Park 2, La Verne 1, Long Beach 4, Los Angeles 60, Pasadena 5, Pomona 7, Whittier 4, Monterey Park 1, Maywood 2, Bell 1, Monterey County 2, Orange County 3, Fuller-

* Complete reports for above diseases for week ending April 28, 1934.

ton 3, Huntington Beach 1, Orange 1, Placentia 5, Riverside County 2, Hemet 2, San Bernardino County 1, San Francisco 7, San Joaquin County 13, Stockton 1, Tracy 4, Santa Clara County 1, Shasta County 11, Tulare County 1.

Influenza

41 cases of influenza have been reported, as follows: Contra Costa County 1, Lake County 15, Los Angeles County 1, Los Angeles 19, Montebello 1, Merced County 1, Riverside County 1, San Luis Obispo County 2.

Measles

1056 cases of measles have been reported, as follows: Alameda County 56, Alameda 33, Albany 13, Berkeley 83, Oakland 130, Piedmont 3, Pleasanton 1, Calaveras County 2, Contra Costa County 24, El Cerrito 8, Martinez 1, Richmond 17, Fresno County 5, Fresno 7, Imperial County 14, Brawley 11, El Centro 2, Kern County 2, Lemoore 1, Los Angeles County 15, Burbank 4, Glendale 4, Long Beach 1, Los Angeles 72, Pasadena 11, Pomona 1, San Fernando 1, San Marino 1, Santa Monica 1, Whittier 18, Lynwood 2, Madera County 1, Monterey County 1, Napa County 1, Orange County 1, Fullerton 1, Roseville 6, Riverside County 18, Riverside 6, Sacramento County 1, Sacramento 7, Colton 3, Redlands 4, San Diego County 22, Coronado 4, Escondido 9, La Mesa 3, National City 5, San Diego 32, San Francisco 222, San Joaquin County 2, Stockton 4, Tracy 3, San Luis Obispo County 1, Daly City 10, South San Francisco 1, Santa Barbara County 27, Santa Barbara 26, Santa Clara County 19, Mountain View 1, Palo Alto 2, San Jose 7, Solano County 1, Vallejo 4, Stanislaus County 1, Tuolumne County 1, Ventura County 29, Fillmore 4, Oxnard 17, Santa Paula 2.

Mumps

514 cases of mumps have been reported, as follows: Alameda County 11, Alameda 2, Berkeley 15, Hayward 1, Livermore 3, Oakland 59, Piedmont 2, Contra Costa County 1, Antioch 2, Martinez 1, Richmond 1, Imperial County 1, Kern County 3, Kings County 2, Los Angeles County 20, Avalon 2, Compton 1, Culver City 2, Glendale 1, Huntington Park 2, Long Beach 6, Los Angeles 19, Pomona 3, Santa Monica 1, Whittier 3, Monterey County 2, Pacific Grove 1, Salinas 5, Orange County 21, Anaheim 5, Huntington Beach 1, Orange 5, Santa Ana 7, Seal Beach 2, Placentia 1, Tustin 11, Riverside County 2, Sacramento County 1, Sacramento 3, San Bernardino County 1, San Bernardino 3, San Diego 1, San Francisco 145, San Joaquin County 4, Stockton 5, San Luis Obispo County 1, San Luis Obispo 3, Daly City 12, South San Francisco 2, Santa Barbara County 1, Santa Clara County 4, Mountain View 4, Palo Alto 1, San Jose 9, Santa Clara 1, Santa Cruz County 5, Watsonville 5, Benicia 1, Vallejo 1, Sonoma County 2, Stanislaus County 63, Ventura County 1, Yolo County 8.

Pneumonia (Lobar)

39 cases of lobar pneumonia have been reported, as follows: Berkeley 1, Oakland 1, Antioch 1, Kern County 2, Bakersfield 1, Los Angeles County 2, Alhambra 1, Claremont 1, Glendale 1, Los Angeles 16, Pasadena 2, Santa Monica 1, Maywood 1, Orange County 1, Riverside 1, Sacramento 1, Oceanside 1, San Diego 2, San Francisco 2.

Scarlet Fever

235 cases of scarlet fever have been reported, as follows: Alameda 3, Albany 1, Oakland 8, Chico 1, Contra Costa County 3, Martinez 3, Imperial County 3, El Centro 6, Calipatria 1, Kern County 3, Kings County 2, Lake County 1, Los Angeles County 26, Burbank 1, Claremont 1, Compton 1, Glendale 2, Huntington Park 2, Inglewood 1, La Verne 1, Long Beach 2, Los Angeles 52, Manhattan 2, Pasadena 1, Pomona 3, Redondo 1, San Gabriel 3, Santa Monica 2, Whittier 2, Torrance 1, Lynwood 3, South Gate 1, Maywood 4, Bell 1, Gardena 1, Orange County 1, Anaheim 1, Fullerton 1, Santa Ana 3, Riverside County 2, Sacramento County 2, Sacramento 6, San Bernardino County 1, Colton 3, Redlands 2, San Bernardino 3, San Diego 6, San Francisco 14, San Joaquin County 7, Stockton 17, Burlingame 1, San Carlos 1, Santa Barbara County 2, Lompoc 1, Santa Barbara 1, Santa Clara County 1, Mountain View 2, Yuba City 1, Tulare County 1, Ventura County 1, Oxnard 1, Yolo County 3, Woodland 1.

Smallpox

12 cases of smallpox have been reported, as follows: Corona 1, San Bernardino County 2, San Bernardino 9.

Typhoid Fever

10 cases of typhoid fever have been reported, as follows: Pittsburgh 2, Fresno County 1, Fresno 1, Imperial County 2, Calexico 1, Los Angeles 1, Los Banos 1, San Bernardino County 1.

Whooping Cough

462 cases of whooping cough have been reported, as follows: Alameda County 3, Alameda 12, Berkeley 10, Oakland 39, Contra Costa County 1, Antioch 3, El Cerrito 4, Richmond 2, El Dorado County 1, Fresno County 3, Fresno 1, Eureka 1, Calexico 2, Bishop 1, Kern County 2, Taft 1, Kings County 6, Lemoore 4, Lake County 5, Los Angeles County 27, Alhambra 3, Beverly Hills 5, Burbank 2, Covina 2, Glendale 2, Inglewood 2, Long Beach 15, Los Angeles 61, Monrovia 1, Pasadena 32, Pomona 1.

San Fernando 1, Santa Monica 4, South Gate 3, Monterey Park 1, Medera County 9, Madera 10, Ross 1, Merced County 14, Merced 2, Orange County 14, Anaheim 1, Fullerton 1, Orange 1, Santa Ana 1, Seal Beach 1, Riverside County 3, Corona 2, Riverside 2, Sacramento County 3, Sacramento 2, Colton 1, San Bernardino 2, San Diego County 4, San Diego 22, San Francisco 10, San Joaquin County 10, Stockton 14, Tracy 7, Burlingame 5, Santa Barbara County 4, Santa Barbara 2, Santa Clara County 2, Los Gatos 2, Mountain View 2, San Jose 13, Santa Clara 2, Sunnyvale 2, Sonoma County 5, Stanislaus County 12, Modesto 4, Tulare County 1, Dinuba 2, Ventura County 4.

Meningitis (Epidemic)

2 cases of epidemic meningitis have been reported, as follows: San Francisco 1, Palo Alto 1.

Dysentery (Amoebic)

5 cases of amoebic dysentery have been reported, as follows: Long Beach 2, Los Angeles 1, Petaluma 1, California 1.**

Dysentery (Bacillary)

3 cases of bacillary dysentery have been reported, as follows: Los Angeles County 1, Los Angeles 2.

Pellagra

One case of pellagra from Contra Costa County has been reported.

Poliomyelitis

11 cases of poliomyelitis have been reported, as follows: Bakersfield 1, Los Angeles County 3, Alhambra 2, El Monte 1, Inglewood 1, Los Angeles 1, San Fernando 1, Riverside 1.

Tetanus

3 cases of tetanus have been reported, as follows: Long Beach 1, Santa Monica 1, Ventura County 1.

Trachoma

2 cases of trachoma have been reported, as follows: Imperial County 1, Orange County 1.

Paratyphoid Fever

2 cases of paratyphoid fever have been reported, as follows: San Diego 1, San Francisco 1.

Food Poisoning

6 cases of food poisoning have been reported, as follows: Pasadena 2, San Bruno 4.

Undulant Fever

4 cases of undulant fever have been reported, as follows: Los Angeles 1, St. Helena 1, San Francisco 1, Santa Cruz 1.

Tularemia

2 cases of tularemia have been reported, as follows: Calistoga 1, St. Helena 1.

Coccidioidal Granuloma

One case of coccidioidal granuloma from Dinuba has been reported.

Septic Sore Throat (Epidemic)

One case of epidemic septic sore throat from San Francisco has been reported.

Rabies (Human)

One case of human rabies from San Diego has been reported.

Rabies in Animals

12 cases of rabies in animals have been reported, as follows: Oakland 1, Los Angeles County 1, Compton 1, Culver City 1, Huntington Park 1, Los Angeles 3, Pasadena 1, Lynwood 1, San Diego 2.

** Cases charged to "California" represent patients ill before entering the State or those who contracted their illness traveling about the State throughout the incubation period of the disease. These cases are not chargeable to any one locality.

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